

# NEGRO HANGED BY FARMER MOB

James Dillard, Former Porter at  
Columbia Club, Lynched in  
Sullivan County.

## ASSAULTED WHITE WOMEN

TWO VICTIMS IDENTIFIED HIM AS  
THE RIGHT MAN.

## TOOK HIM FROM THE SHERIFF

The Mob Swung Dillard from a Tele-  
phone Pole—Negro Begged Mob  
Not to Torture Him.

(Special to The Indianapolis News.)

SULLIVAN, Ind., November 21.—James Dillard, alias George Moore, the negro who criminally assaulted Mrs. Milton Davis and Mrs. John A. Lemon, last Tuesday, was hanged by a mob in Sullivan county at 3 o'clock last night.

The lynching occurred about 100 yards north of the Knox county line, within view of the house where the second crime was committed, and was witnessed by 1,000 or 1,500 men, women and children.

The negro refused to admit his guilt, but Mrs. Lemon's positive identification of him for his assault was sufficient for the mob to hang him to the cross-arm of the Carlisle Telephone Company's pole No. 1,883.

The negro pleaded hard for his life, but his pleas were unavailing, and he was swung from the end-gate of a farmer's wagon that had been hurriedly pressed into service.

Officers Made Slight Resistance. Dillard was captured from Sheriff John S. Dudley and his deputies, who brought him from Lawrenceville, Ill. The officers offered but little resistance, as the mob of Knox and Sullivan county farmers meant business. Dudley and his deputies drew their revolvers, but did not shoot.

They were outnumbered by men who had carefully planned the capture of the negro, and allowed the mob to take him with but little show of fight.

The negro was laid into a two-seated wagon, containing seven men. Three or four other vehicles conveyed others of the party, which started on the ride to John Lemon's home.

The news that Dillard had been captured traveled fast, and at every crossroad from one to half a dozen vehicles joined the procession. At Paxton a dozen carriages fell into line, and at Carlisle twenty to twenty-five more.

## Country Folks Turned Out.

Every farmhouse was lighted and the family was at the window to view the grim procession, the seriousness of a life or death matter being over it all.

Not a jest was heard. Every man in the line, which stretched back of the rig in which the negro rode, wished for nothing but that Dillard should pay the penalty for his crimes and pay it quick.

At one farmhouse the family was called out to see the negro, as it was thought that they might identify him. They believed him to be the negro, but were not permitted to approach.

Finally Lemon's home was reached. The negro was dragged into the house and confronted with his victim. Lemon held him, while he said to his wife: "Mary, here is the negro we have captured. Is he the man who attacked you? Be careful, for your decision, for this man's life rests on what you answer."

## Dillard was the Man.

Perhaps twenty people were in the room and the windows a dozen others peered in. The silence was unbroken for perhaps three minutes. Lemon held the lamp in front of Dillard's face, while his wife closely scrutinized every feature of the negro. Every ear was strained to hear the words of Mrs. Lemon, who finally said:

"That is the man. There is no doubt about it."

She made the statement in a tone so calm and confident that it impressed everyone with the belief that the right man had been captured.

"My God, lady, be sure. Don't make a mistake!" came from the lips of the negro.

"That's him," cried the little one, while through the windows came the cries of "Hang him!" "Burn him!"

Speech to the Mob. The man was hustled back to the front yard, and Frank Phillips addressed the crowd. Phillips said:

"The man ought to be hung. When my wife was driving along the road, he asked her to let him ride, and when she refused, he grabbed at the buggy top."

"Bring him on," cried someone in the crowd. "I've got the rope."

The crowd surged down the road with the negro in front. A quarter of a mile from the house the crowd halted, and a rope was thrown over the cross-beam of a telephone pole and a slip-noose was hastily tied. A farmer's wagon was pressed into service, the end-gate placed across the tops of the side-boards, and the negro was helped upon it. Lemon commanded the crowd to keep silence, and said:

"Man, have you any confession to make before you go to meet your maker? You have but a minute left you on this earth, and a confession will help you in the world to come."

# Delay in Calling Out the Militia

Vincennes Company Could Have Reached Oaktown, Ind., in Time to Prevent Lynching Had Prompt Orders Been Given.

Oaktown, Ind., where James Dillard was lynched last night, is on the Evansville and Terre Haute railroad, about fourteen miles south of Sullivan, Ind., and about twelve miles north of Vincennes.

The mob, with the negro, was bound overland in wagons and on horseback. At Vincennes there were switch engines of three railroads. Had the Vincennes militia been called out quickly it could have reached Oaktown before the lynching party, and so in all probability could have prevented the hanging.

The Governor's office was notified at 8:30 o'clock that Dillard had been captured and was being taken overland to Oaktown. Ten minutes later the suggestion was made to the Governor's office that because of the short distance between Vincennes and Oaktown, and the railway facilities at Vincennes, the Vincennes militia company could be sent out in time to prevent the lynching.

Information from Vincennes to-day shows that the Governor's office did not communicate with Capt. James N. McCoy, of the Vincennes militia, until one hour and seventeen minutes after the Governor had been notified of the proposed lynching.

The Governor's secretary, Colonel Wilson, talked with Capt. McCoy at 9:57 o'clock. Even then the order was not to go to Oaktown, but to assemble the men of the company and to await further instructions from the Governor.

At 6:45 o'clock a reporter for The Indianapolis News talked with Captain McCoy. He said he had just been talking with the Governor's office, and the Governor had ordered him to assemble his men. When he was ready to leave with the company he was not to go to Oaktown, but to report to the Governor for further orders. The Governor would then advise him according to the information he had received up to that time.

At 7:20 o'clock, in a second conversation, Captain McCoy said he would be ready to start in fifteen minutes. An engine was then ready, and thirty of McCoy's men were under arms.

Quick work had been done at Vincennes in making preparations for the run to Oaktown. But the order to start never came.

At 8:11 o'clock James O'Haver, a farmer living near the scene of the lynching, notified The Indianapolis News by telephone that the negro had been lynched at 8 o'clock, a short distance from his farm; and as he talked, he could hear members of the lynching party passing his home in wagons.

The facts show that Captain McCoy, at Vincennes, was ready to start for Oaktown in one hour and eight minutes after he received instructions from the Governor to assemble his men. Had this order been given at 5:30 o'clock the militia would have left Vincennes at 6:28 o'clock, and would have arrived at Oaktown at 7 o'clock, a full hour before the lynching occurred.

# NICHOLSON A NOVELIST; BOOK OF FICTION DONE

IT WILL BE PUBLISHED BY THE  
BOWEN-MERRILL COMPANY.

## MR. NICHOLSON IN NEW YORK

His Publishers, in His Absence, Re-  
fuse to Discuss His Forth-  
coming Book.

Meredith Nicholson, the author of this city, has just completed a novel. It will be published by the Bowen-Merrill Company.

The Bowen-Merrill Company to-day would make no statement for publication, saying that any announcement as to the novel and its date of publication should come from Mr. Nicholson.

Mr. Nicholson is now in New York, where he went yesterday on a short business trip.

Mr. Nicholson wrote "Short Flights," a volume of his earlier poems, which was published about twelve years ago. Recently he published a volume, "The Hoosiers," dealing with Indiana writers.

His verse have appeared in all the leading magazines.

## FOUND HIM DEAD IN BED.

Man Whose Invalid Wife is in a  
Hospital.

Louis F. Burditt, fifty-three years old, a carpenter, at 1122 Shelby street, was found dead in his home, this afternoon. He had not been seen for two days, and two women living in the neighborhood tried a number of keys until they found one that unlocked the door.

Burditt was found dead in bed with a copy of The News of Wednesday lying at his side as though he had dropped asleep after reading. There was no indication that the man committed suicide.

Friends of the family say that he has been suffering from his heart, and that other troubles caused him to drink heavily. His wife, an invalid, is in a hospital receiving treatment.

## HUNTING MISHAPS NO. 13-14.

Charles Hill Had an Eye Put Out  
When His Gun Burst.

(Special to The Indianapolis News.)  
NORTH VERNON, Ind., November 21.—While Charles Hill was hunting in this county he got the muzzle of his gun filled with mud. When he fired the gun the muzzle burst, and a piece of the metal struck Hill in the eye and destroyed the sight.

## Left Hand Blown Off.

(Special to The Indianapolis News.)  
MADISON, Ind., November 21.—William Horton had his left hand blown off yesterday, by the accidental discharge of his gun while hunting.

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# BURDEN THROWN ON THE GOVERNOR

Members of the Reformatory Board  
Say He Must Prefer Formal  
Charges.

## UNTIL HADES FREEZES OVER

That is the Length of Time John S.  
McDonald Says He Will Stand by  
the New Superintendent.

John S. McDonald, of New Albany, member of the board of managers of the Jeffersonville Reformatory, who refused to resign when the Governor requested it, has written a letter to the Governor saying that he stands in exactly the same position as he did at the conference. He says he will stand by the new superintendent, Mr. Byers, "until Hades freezes over."

Other members of the board stand with Mr. McDonald, and all say it is their duty to stand by the new superintendent, whose appointment defied the Governor because the board did not call at the State House before it selected a new man.

A special to The News from New Albany quotes Mr. McDonald as follows: "I voted for Joseph P. Byers for superintendent of the Indiana Reformatory, at Jeffersonville, and intend to stand by him until Hades freezes over. I refused to resign when asked to do so by the Governor and requested him to put his demand for my resignation in writing and state his reasons for desiring the resignation, and he declined to do so. I am in writing and give my final answer."

Would Do It Again. "I wrote Governor Dillard, in reply to a letter from him, that I stood in exactly the same position as I did during my conference with him. In making the appointment of Mr. Byers for superintendent, the board stood above any personal matters, and we had declined to make the appointment, he would have been angry, and he is angry anyway."

"You can say that I will not be run out and held up to the people of the State as unworthy of the trust given me."

John G. Williams' Statement. John G. Williams, of this city, member of the board, has returned from Jeffersonville, where he was engaged in preparing the annual report of the institution, to the Governor. He says he has been requested to resign.

"I will not answer that question until I am requested," said Mr. Williams. The board was unanimous in the selection of Mr. Byers. Mr. Williams said in answer to a question:

"I never objected to Mr. Byers' appointment. I was a part of my duty to consult the Governor before the appointment was made."

Amos Butler, secretary of the Board of State Charities, was interested in a deal in coal lands in Greene county with D. J. Terhune, member of the board of managers, and A. T. Hert, superintendent of the Jeffersonville Reformatory. Since the trouble between the Governor and the board has arisen, the deal is being dropped.

Story of a Coal Deal. The point is made that it is not good policy for the secretary of the Board of State Charities, whose business it is to go about and criticize the management of the institution, to be financially connected with the superintendent of an institution, the theory being that it might tend to soften criticism. The situation is also cited as evidence of the close ties existing between the Board of State Charities and the Reformatory.

Mr. Butler was asked regarding the matter. He said that when he invested several hundred dollars he did not know that Hert was interested. He said he was talking to D. J. Terhune, member of the board, and when he heard Mr. Terhune discussing a coal deal in which Mr. Terhune was interested, he said he was a little money. In that way he became interested. The coal lands were afterward disposed of at a profit of almost 100 per cent.

It is reported that Evan Prosser, of New Albany, chairman of the Floyd county Republican committee, was one of the men the Governor had in mind for superintendent.

Say Investigation was a Whitewash. Republicans are rallying to the defense of the Governor are telling of the investigation of Mr. Hert by the last Legislature. They are now referring to it as a "whitewash."

They say that it does not look well that Mr. Hert should step out of the superintendency of the Reformatory and take the superintendency of a prison labor contract in the Reformatory. In the investigation where the Legislature it was sought to show that Mr. Hert was too intimately connected with prison labor contractors and that he sometimes had more men detailed to work than were contracted for.

Mr. Butler, whom the Governor was said to have in mind for superintendent of the Jeffersonville Reformatory, was at the State House to-day. He says the story is ridiculous.

"I have never talked with the Governor in my life about that institution," said Mr. Conger. "I would not take the responsibilities there for any amount of money." The Governor, I have no doubt, has never thought of me in connection with that institution.

Terhune's Statement. In reply to an inquiry concerning the relations of Mr. Hert and himself in the coal mining business, D. J. Terhune, at Linton, to-day, said:

"Mr. Butler, Mr. Hert, myself and some other gentlemen each had some stock in a coal company that owns thirteen hundred acres of coal lands in Greene and Sullivan counties. This stock was sold last June by Mr. Hert, he having secured an option on three-fourths of the stock."

# MANY MINERS IN THE POORHOUSE

Seventy Per Cent. of Inmates of  
Luzerne County Home Formerly  
Worked in Collieries.

## BOARD MEMBER TESTIFIES

Additional Testimony Showing the  
Many Diseases to Which Miners  
Are Subjected.

SCRANTON, Pa., November 21.—The examination of Dr. R. H. Gibbons, of Scranton, was resumed when the anthracite strike commission met to-day. He said that the occupation of a miner subjects a man to pleurisy, gout, neuralgia, asthma, bronchitis, sciatica and other diseases. He believed the day would come when men would be subjected to medical examination before they undertake mining.

Children, he said, who have suffered from any form of disease of the respiratory passages, bronchitis or pneumonia, should never be permitted in the mines under the age of fifteen years, because they should have a chance to eliminate the predisposing factor in the case of so-called miners' asthma.

Dr. Gibbons said he did not mean to be understood as saying that miners were unhealthy class, but that they are debilitated and run down. He spoke of the necessity for improved ambulance service at the different mines.

## Bunch of Infection.

The witness was cross-examined by James H. Torrey, for the Delaware & Hudson Company. In reply to a question, Dr. Gibbons said he did not believe there was an ambulance in the entire coal regions that had sterile blankets or that the vehicles were sterile.

"In fact," said the doctor, "they are a bunch of infection. Every ambulance carries death and disease to every unhealthy miner who is placed in it."

Dr. Gibbons was followed by Dr. Eugene J. Butler, a member of the central poor board of Luzerne county, who testified that 70 per cent. of those in one of the poor houses in Luzerne county were miners and that 40 per cent. were crippled by accidents in and about the mines.

A man who works a few years as a miner, he declared, is not fit for anything else.

## Got Out in Time.

A. McClinton, representing the Lehigh and Wilkes-Barre Coal Company, cross-examined the witness and asked if it was not true that a large number of the professional men and merchants in Wilkes-Barre were men whose fathers and grandfathers had been employed in the mines.

"If that is so," the witness replied, "the fathers and grandfathers were the wise fellows who got out in time. They were not men who worked for twenty or twenty-five years in the mines."

Preacher Favors Organization. Dr. Butler was excused and the Rev. Dr. Roberts was called to the stand, his examination being conducted by Mr. Darrow for the mine workers. He reiterated his belief expressed in his book that an intelligent and persistent combination among miners for the maintenance of prices and rates of wages would secure a just share of the profit for the workers.

In answer to Commissioner Clark, Dr. Roberts defined the use of the words "anthracite syndicate" in his book by saying he had reached the conclusion that there was an understanding among the operators to adjust the prices and regulate the trade. This conclusion he had reached from personal investigation.

"In view of the last strike," Mr. Darrow asked, "and every strike that has occurred since, have your views as to the desirability of collective bargaining in the anthracite regions been modified or strengthened, or have they changed at all?"

"Strengthened decidedly," the witness replied.

## The Poverty Line.

Dr. Roberts, in reply to a question as to what wages man should receive to maintain the American standard of living said that he would place the poverty line at \$25 a year. "Under that amount," he said, the miner and his family would suffer physically, intellectually and morally."

The commission adjourned until tomorrow so that the commissioners could confer regarding a suggested adjournment for a week of ten days, in order to allow both sides to prepare their documentary evidence.

Dr. Frank P. Lenahan, of Wilkes-Barre, testified that fully 90 per cent. of the men who work in the mines are anemic. Their blood is impoverished, and their general condition is below par, thus decreasing their earning power.

# REPLY TO HEARST.

Coal Carrying Roads Deny Charge of  
Rate Discrimination.

WASHINGTON, November 21.—The answers of the Delaware & Hudson, New York, Susquehanna & Western, the Erie and Lehigh Valley railroads to the complaint of William R. Hearst, of New York, against the anthracite coal carrying roads were filed to-day with the Interstate Commerce Commission. All the answers deny that the interstate commerce law has been violated. They deny that any unjust or discriminatory rates have been exacted on anthracite as compared to bituminous, or other carload freight traffic, and deny that the petitioner, or any other persons or other interests, had, speaking for itself, or in injury by reason of the anthracite transportation tariff.

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